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City of Fairfax NEWS RELEASE

Fairfax, Virginia 22030

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 8, 2016

2016 Fairfax Civil War Day Set for April 30

FAIRFAX, Va. — Experience American Civil War camp life and a variety of living history presentations during the 2016 Fairfax Civil War Day, to be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 30 at the Historic Blenheim Estate, 3610 Old Lee Highway.

New this year: cricket, the “baseball of the era,” and a selection of rare historical documents. Visitors of all ages can join a period cricket game, see documents from the American Civil War, including vital court documents and sketches created by a Civil War soldier. All of this takes place on a wooded 12-acre estate that includes a home built circa 1859, a family graveyard, and more.

Special guests will portray historical figures including Clara Barton, General and Mrs. Robert E. Lee, Colonel John S. Mosby, General James Longstreet, aeronaut Thaddeus Lowe, and preservationist Sarah Tracy. Re-enactors will demonstrate and discuss a spectrum of topics including cavalry tactics, African-American units in the United States Colored Troops, medicine, blacksmithing with a replica 1862 traveling forge, and the preservation of Mount Vernon.

Events include talks on a variety of Civil War subjects, including the Arlington Freedman’s Village, slavery, and the end of the war. A highlight this year is an exhibit of original art from Private Robert Sneden, who documented the war through meticulous pen-and-ink maps and sketches. Civil War

-more -



(2016 Fairfax Civil War Day, continued)

documents from the Fairfax County Circuit Court Archives will also be on display in the site's Civil War Interpretive Center.

Popular annual activities include firing cannon artillery guns, youth "boot camps" for kids, author/vendor tents, and wagon rides through soldier camps. *Dearest Home* will play period music and present a workshop on abolitionist songs.

Also, guided tours of the first floor of the Blenheim house and its famous soldier graffiti will be offered from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. that day.

Admission is \$5 per adult and \$3 per child age 12 and younger. Proceeds benefit the restoration of the Historic Blenheim Estate. Free parking and full accessibility shuttle service are provided at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run. *(Please note: parking is not available at the event site.)*

This event is produced by the City of Fairfax; Historic Fairfax City Inc.; and the 17th Virginia Infantry, Company D "Fairfax Rifles."

For more information — including directions and parking — visit www.fairfaxva.gov or call **703-591-0560**.

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*Attachment: document
Event flyer with complete schedule*

16th Fairfax Civil War Day

Saturday, April 30 ★ 10am – 5pm



Hayrides ★ House Tours

Cannon Firing ★ Camps ★ Cricket Games

Meet Lee, Mosby, Clara Barton & Others

Historic Blenheim

\$5/Adults ★ \$3/Youth 3-12 ★ Free/2 and under

No parking at Blenheim site, FREE shuttle
from Fairfax High School (3501 Rebel Run)

Proceeds benefit restoration of Historic Blenheim.

Food by



Presented by



3610 Old Lee Hwy, Fairfax, VA 22030 ★ www.fairfaxva.gov ★ (703) 591-0560

Fairfax Civil War Day Schedule of Events

Saturday, April 30, 2016 • 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Presented by the City of Fairfax,
Historic Fairfax City Inc. and
The 17th Virginia Infantry Regiment,
Co. D, "Fairfax Rifles" Living History Society

Proceeds benefit the restoration of Historic Blenheim.

Activities

Historic Blenheim House Tours (First Floor) (11 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

Meet Union Surgeon Bleecker Hovey and Nurse Marilla Hovey (House Parlour)

Grandma's Cottage Open for Self-Guided Tours (12 p.m. - 3 p.m.)

Civil War Interpretive Center (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.):

Gallery Exhibitions: "Civil War Journey: Maps and Sketches of Private Robert Sneden" and replica of Historic Blenheim Attic with Union soldier signatures and pictographs

Atrium Exhibition: "Fairfax Circuit Court Civil War Documents"

Multipurpose Room: Talks/Film

Civil War Authors and Vendors Tent (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

Wagon Rides (12 p.m. - 4 p.m.) ★ **Cricket Games (join in!)** (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.)



Food by



Living History Presenters and Displays (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

Sue Sodomini - Clara Barton ★ Federal Military Medical Unit - Chief Surgeon Raugh ★ Jenée Lindner - Sarah Tracy, guardian of Mt. Vernon

Kevin Knapp - Thaddeus Lowe, aeronaut ★ Mr. and Mrs. Frank Orlando - Gen. and Mrs. Robert E. Lee

2nd Corps USA Headquarters - Officers and Engineers ★ Patrick O'Neill - Gen. John Caldwell, 2nd Corps U.S.A. ★ Ron Hawkins - Gen. James Longstreet

"Fairfax Rifles, Co. D, 17th Virginia Infantry ★ Jimmy Fleming - Col. John S. Mosby ★ Bill Scott & Friends - "Black Horse Cavalry"

54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry (United States Colored Troops) ★ 23rd Regiment United States Colored Troops

Living History Troupe - "Women of the Civil War Era," portraying women of African descent and the fight for freedom

U.S. Colored Troops - "Voices of Freedom," students portraying African-American sailors through words and songs

Beverly Pelcher and Rex Hovey - Nurse Marilla Hovey and Surgeon Bleecker Lansing Hovey, 136th New York State Volunteers

Adele Air - "Civil War Medicine" ★ Dixie Rose Relief Society - "A Ladies Aid Society" ★ Carpenter's Battery, C.S.A.

Battery B, 1st Connecticut Light Artillery, U.S.A. ★ Jeff Dunkelberger and Caitlin Garvey - "The Village Blacksmith"

Joseph Stahl - "Civil War Identification Tags and Images from Antietam" ★ James Mansfield - "Building Winter Quarters"

Katrina Krempasky and Heather Bollinger - "Fairfax Circuit Court Civil War Documents"

Schedule of Events

10:00 a.m. **Camps Open** - Civil War Balloon Inflation with Thaddeus Lowe

10:30 a.m. **Beginners Boot Camp** - Youth Program

17th Virginia Infantry, Co. D, and 28th Massachusetts Infantry, Co. B

Civil War Music - Dearest Home

Living History: "Talk with the General" - Gen. James Longstreet, Confederate Camp

11:00 a.m. **Talk:** "Experiment in Freedom: Arlington's Freedman's Village, 1863-1900" - Jimmy Price, Civil War Interpretive Center

Living History: "Caring for the Sick and Wounded" - Federal Military Hospital, Union Camp

11:30 a.m. **Cannon Firing Demonstration** - Carpenter's Battery and Battery B, 1st Connecticut Light Artillery

12:00 p.m. **Civil War Music** - Abolitionist Song Workshop - Dearest Home

Living History: "Ask the General" - Gen. Robert E. Lee, Confederate Camp

12:30 p.m. **Talk:** "When did the Civil War End? The Voyage of the CSS Shenandoah" - William S. Connery, Civil War Interpretive Center

Beginners Boot Camp - Youth Program, 17th Virginia Infantry, Co. D, and 28th Massachusetts Infantry, Co. B

Living History: "Meet the Officers and Engineers" - 2nd Corps Camp

1:00 p.m. **Talk:** "A Slave No More: Lewis Lee of Fairfax Court House" Wes Boutchard, Civil War Interpretive Center

1:30 p.m. **Cavalry Tactics Discussion** - Black Horse Cavalry, 4th Virginia Cavalry, Co. H

2:00 p.m. **Cannon and Firing Demonstrations** - 17th Virginia Infantry, Co. D; Carpenter's Battery, and Battery B, 1st Connecticut Light Artillery

2:30 p.m. **Civil War Music** - Dearest Home

Living History: "Caring for the Sick and Wounded" - Federal Military Hospital, Union Camp

Talk/Songs: Voices of Freedom, Grandma's Cottage Porch

3:00 p.m. **Film:** "The Forgotten Fourteen," 54th Massachusetts Infantry at the Battle of New Market, Lewis L. Carter, Jr., Civil War Interpretive Center

3:30 p.m. **Beginners Boot Camp** - 17th Virginia Infantry, Co. D, and 28th Massachusetts Infantry, Co. B

Living History: "Meet the Officers and Engineers" - 2nd Corps Camp

4:00 p.m. **Cannon Firing Demonstrations** - Carpenter's Battery and Battery B, 1st Connecticut Light Artillery

4:30 p.m. **Music and Dancing** - Dearest Home

5:00 p.m. **Camps Close**

Program Schedule subject to change.